

THE CHARM and CARE of CATS and KITTENS

SOME Hints Concerning the Habits, Needs and Guardianship of the Cleanest of All Domestic Pets

A PAGE FOR MISSES

I sometimes think the Pussy Willows gray
Are Angel Kittens who have lost their way.
And every Blush on the river bank
A Cattail from some lovely Cat Astray.

Sometimes I think perchance that Allah
May, When he created Cats, have thrown away
The Tails he married in making, and they
To Cat-tails and to Pussy Willows gray.

PERHAPS in this tribulation of a Persian kitten is solved the old, old problem of whether there must not be somewhere a heaven for the souls of all the dear, good pussy cats that have lived for a while, but now are no more. What lovelier thought than that



She Can Walk Across a Table Crowded With Perishable China.

In every little pussy willow is held the spirit of some beloved kitten, now an angel, spending its life in the very midst of beautiful nature life. The breeze

A Jewel Sachet for Travelling.

ONE of the most useful bits of fancy work which can be made at comparatively little cost of time or money is a jewel sachet to hold one's trinkets when travelling or making short visits, when a jewel box would be too cumbersome. Such a sachet may be made of any piece of ribbon, silk, satin or velvet that one may happen to possess, and, of course, handsome brocades, wide strips of embroidery on silk, satin or velvet are barred from use for this case. The material should be about three-quarters of a yard long and six inches wide. For the lining there should be a piece of chambray of the same size.

Place the silk and chambray together and cut off pieces of each, one piece of each two inches deep and two pieces of each three inches deep. These are to be used as flaps to cover the trinkets.

Sew the silk and chambray piece that is left together at the bottom on one side and at the top after rounding this top edge to make a pretty finish. If you want to do your sewing on the machine you can do so by sewing the materials together on the wrong side and then turning the strip inside out. After this is done turn the bottom of the strip (the end which is straight across) up to a point six inches from the bottom. Sew the side edges together so as to form a pocket. The chambray side should, of course, be the inner one. Then stitch a straight line directly down the middle of the pocket, dividing it into two parts. Sew the two-inch flap which you cut off across the strip, so that it falls over this pocket.

Above this pocket a small pin cushion for stickpins is to be made. The side edge is still open between the chambray and the silk and through this cotton wool a thin layer is stuffed into a space about four inches deep. Before stuffing in the wool, however, it is necessary to run a line of stitching across the strip of material to make a place for the cushion. In fact two lines of stitching should form the boundaries of the cushion. The first line of stitching placed about half an inch above the pocket flap will hold the cushion in place when the sachet is folded.

The other line is placed four inches above the first. After the padding has been placed in this space the side edge is sewed up and the flaps which were cut from the strip are sewed to the sides. These flaps are rounded on the outer edge. They are meant to fold over the cushion before the sachet is rolled up. Half an inch above the pin cushion an extra piece of chambray the same width as the strip and four or five inches deep is sewed to the inside of the strip to form another pocket. The bottom and two sides are sewn fast but the top is left open. Buttonholes may be worked in this upper edge and buttons placed on the

blows but for it to dance to, the sun shines just to bring brightness and gladness to it, the birds sing only to give it joy, and all the while little fairies live close by, playing about it by night, hidden fast asleep in its shadows and dreaming exquisite dreams by day.

And then, too, it may well be true that the graceful cat tails are those tails which Allah married in making and threw away down to old earth, for in creating the kitten he felt that every part must be a bit of perfection and whatever showed the tiniest fault he cast aside, and we are in consequence blessed with the cat tails and darling pussy willows.

It seems strange and very, very sad that there are beings on this planet who do not love a playful kitten, and even shudder when a cat walks sedately and unconcernedly by. Fortunately indeed are all who inherently love the cat, for no animal returns affection more sincerely, if not demonstratively, nor can be a better comforter in hours when one wants to be loved.

NOT only is a cat a loving and lovable companion, but of all domestic pets it is the only one which is of real use, literally pays its own board or "earns its salt."

The catless home is invariably so overrun with mice and rats as to be anything but a pleasant dwelling, but the house where there is even a tiny kitten has none of this nuisance, and every member of the household is sure to be happier because of the presence of the gentle creature, who, in its proud, independent manner nevertheless appreciates every act of kindness and love offered it. The time worn controversy between the cat lover and the dog lover as to which pet is the most loyal and makes the best companion is no nearer settlement than the day the argument started, nor will it ever be decided. It is no more possible to compare the two, point for point, than to state which is more necessary in the world, the horse or the automobile—both fill such absolutely different spheres and both are necessary in their own time and place. For constant excitement, great enthusiasm, intense interest in all the happenings in the world about and in every detail of ordinary humdrum existence a dog will keep an entire family keyed up to a high pitch of nervous tension. For the charm of re-

FASHIONABLE SCARFS.

SINCE scarfs are alike worn with street, afternoon and dance costumes it behooves the girl who aims to be in line with the fashion which is suited to her years to provide herself with at least three of those charming accessories of the wardrobe.

The final touch of smartness may be added to a dark lined tailored street suit by the addition of a scarf carelessly crushed about the neck, one end flung across the shoulder and the other end hanging to the belt line in front. And the fortunate part of this fashion is that any girl who sews neatly can make a scarf for herself from a straight piece of tulle, satin, velvet or crepe de Chine two yards long and twelve inches wide. The lining should be of white satin if the outside is some tint which clashes with the old blue or cerise, and the ends should be shirred on to ring ornaments or folded to form deep points tipped with tassels.

More elaborate are the scarfs of white or a light shade of liberty edged with a band of black satin and gathered into a cord ornament, of a brilliant shade of green, rose or blue chiffon or messaline embroidered in self color or of the same material as the frock and lined with satin repeating the tone of the hat trimmings or with Persian marquisette.

To go with dancing frocks, there is no necessary quite so smart as a scarf of net or tulle or Brussels fringe-weighted and bordered with silver, pearl, gold or jet. As these transparent fabrics crush and wrinkle so readily that they are soon out of commission, it is unwise to expend a great deal of work upon them. Instead of doing the borders with beads, buy passementerie, which is quickly sewed on and can be ripped off in a few minutes' time and used for a fresh strip of scarf material.

Of course every girl knows that the Persian border of the old fashioned shawl which has been knocking about the house for half an century is the height of fashion at this moment. While the cashmere centre of the heirloom may be almost in tatters from hard usage or from the inroads of moths, the hand worked border may be cut away and applied upon a piece of new material. As this task must be done with the greatest care and at the expense of considerable time, the Persian border should be attached to white or delicately tinted cashmere of a really fine quality, so that it may withstand an indefinite number of cleanings. If enough of the border of the ancient shawl is available apply it upon both edges of the new scarf, but if only a small quantity is in first class condition use that much for the ends of the strip of cashmere and outline the sides with hand embroidery in Persian colors.

pose, on the other hand, of placid content, of quiet enjoyment in the simple things of life, if only a ray of bright sunshine or nothing more than a good meal, a cat's whole attitude is an example worth taking lessons from.

It requires some time often for a cat to give itself over heart and soul to its mistress, but once it has succumbed it

training of a kitten and the only mistress who has influence is one who makes her cats love her so that they trust her through everything and apparently want to please her. A cat, of course, must be punished, but never be really beaten or severely hurt, and when gently chastised must at the same time have its error clearly pointed out. The kitten that delights in



Will Cuddle Into His Happy Nest in His Mistress' Lap When the Books Are Closed for the Day

will display a loyalty and a power of trust and affection not shown in any other animal. It is the height of unfairness to say that a cat does not remember its friends. There are cases known of cats recognizing and greeting in the most ardent manner a former owner whom it has not seen in many years. Once a cat has outgrown its kittenhood it shows a greater repose of manner and a greater self-mastery than many a human being can ever attain, and a cat trained in its infancy not to steal or destroy can be left with safety in a dining room or kitchen where the choicest viands are to be had for the mere stealing.

DIFFERENT from any other animal, a cat can be taught only through kindness. Fear is no factor in the

playing with a spool or ball of twine should have its special ball kept in a place where it can get at it and it will soon be satisfied to play with this and nothing else. A cat is not naturally destructive, and it is well known how she can walk across a table crowded with perishable china ornaments and neither break nor even knock over a single object, unless she is suddenly frightened by being called and jumps down in haste and confusion.

For a cat, as with any other house pet, it is a good plan for it to become accustomed early in life to its own special chair or cushion, as well as its own particular playthings. A cat seems to delight in a feeling of possession and, if allowed, greatly prefers to eat always from one

special platter and bowl and in a certain definite spot, be it a particular corner of the kitchen or a high chair in the dining room among the members of the family.

More than anything else close companionship with human beings will humanize and bring out the best points in a cat's nature. The kitten which is allowed to curl up on the top of the desk or in a corner of the arm chair during its mistress' study hour will do nothing to distract attention from the books, but will itself apparently drink in a great deal of what all books are ultimately intended to teach, namely, a further understanding of human nature and a pleasure in human society. The glad purr of perfect satisfaction with which a cat will cuddle into its happy nest in its mistress' lap when the books are closed for the day is as strong an inducement as any mark of honor for a girl to concentrate hard and diligently that the task may be the sooner accomplished and playtime arrive.

A CAT possesses an extraordinary sense of time. Let it once become used to expecting its mistress home at a regular hour each day and it will soon always be found waiting by the front door to greet her—that is, provided of course the waiting was at first rewarded by some recognition, either a moment of play, a much prized delicacy or even a gentle stroking and cuddling. Some cats will act as an alarm clock for an entire household by entering the room and jumping up on the bed of each member at a certain definite time every morning. It is seldom that a cat which is fed regularly once or twice a day will escape being on hand for her meals at the exact time appointed.

Of all things a cat should be fed regularly. Naturally a healthy animal, it is nevertheless necessary to keep its food up to a certain standard, especially if the cat must be kept cooped up all day in the house. When there is free run of a yard or garden it will remain generally in good condition unless it persists in eating insects, when a doctor's care will soon be required. A kitten needs to be fed twice a day, but for an old cat who takes little, if any, exercise, one while the washing is going on. I begin for drinking and for food a raw skin of beef with some vegetable—lettuce, boiled asparagus ends, cabbage, or almost any other is liked and will agree well. Fish may be given occasionally but not as a constant diet, and although it is a fact not generally known a cat really prefers meat to fish. Give it the choice and invariably the flesh will be chosen. There should always be a dish of clean, fresh water near at hand for a cat to drink. Water is as necessary for a cat as a human being and many cats show an extraordinary liking for a quaff of cool water.

A cat is by nature the cleanest of animals and will keep its fur in good order always. Should the hair of an Angora, Persian or any other long haired variety become matted or knotted it must first be dampened either with oil or soft soap and a little water, and after the application has soaked in it will be found comparatively easy to separate. The tangle with the fingers. This must be done with the utmost gentleness, and it is a mistake to use a comb for the purpose, which drags out the hair, or at any rate, breaks it and makes the coat rough and uneven. When all untangled the hair must be thoroughly washed.

There is no more difficult task than to

give a cat a bath, but, fortunately, pussy takes such excellent care of her hair and skin that only on rare occasions is the operation necessary. The cat must trust implicitly the person who is to perform the deed, and generally an assistant will be necessary as well. The water must be soft and warm—not hot—and there must be two tubs ready at hand, one for the first washing, the other for rinsing. It will be much easier to use a liquid soap, which can be made by cutting a piece into shreds and boiling for an hour. Especially with a long haired cat the liquid soap is much simpler to work with and will save the hair considerably from clothing. One noted fancier gives the following method of bathing his cats:—Have soft water about blood heat, with



Some Cats Will Act as an Alarm Clock.

a very small piece of soda in the washing tub, into which I place the cat, hindquarters first, having some one who knows it perfectly well to hold and talk to the cat while the washing is going on. I begin for drinking and for food a raw skin of beef with some vegetable—lettuce, boiled asparagus ends, cabbage, or almost any other is liked and will agree well. Fish may be given occasionally but not as a constant diet, and although it is a fact not generally known a cat really prefers meat to fish. Give it the choice and invariably the flesh will be chosen. There should always be a dish of clean, fresh water near at hand for a cat to drink. Water is as necessary for a cat as a human being and many cats show an extraordinary liking for a quaff of cool water.

Curtain Making Fascinating Work

MAKING curtains is a fascinating pastime for the girl who has a taste for interior decoration, and certainly there is nothing which so freshens up a room or so greatly adds to its attractive appearance as new draperies. Wide is the range of materials from which to select, and fortunately most of them are of moderate price, notably bobbinet, which forms the foundation of lace curtains, and is one of the simplest forms of cotton netting. If the walls of the room are done in some dark shade of green, brown or red all white draperies are prettiest and may consist of two straight widths of bobbinet finished with a narrow flat gimp, with a two inch hand hem or with a self-ruffle.

But in case the windows of the bungalow are very deeply set, or its walls are of stone, so filmy a material as bobbinet will not answer, as from a distance the house will appear to lack casement draperies. In that event, any all white curtains should be of strongly woven, richly bordered half silk shantung, of satin faced cotton poplin or of shimmering "near" silk messaline, any of which materials look best finished with wide hems headed with a gimp or with a narrow insertion of plain Irish mesh.

When the wall paper and fringe of a room are of some pale shade of yellow, pink or blue the color scheme may easily be repeated in the window dressings by making curtains of mercerized white tulle, serim or cross barred muslin and bordering them with a stencilled design with an appliqued flower or Grecian pattern cut from plain colored China silk or bordered with colored linen and edged with drawn work.

Another way to follow out the color scheme of the walls is to make curtains of white jacquard printed with dainty flower designs, of crossbar serim with colored lace insertion and of cross stripe snowflake, any of which materials may be finished with cotton fringe and gill launder without fading; or the draperies may be of etamine printed with net bands appliqued with crocheted flowers and set in via Cluny lace insertions at both sides of the border.

In reversible printed cretonne may be found designs which will harmonize perfectly with the decorations of any room whose color scheme is not positively friskish. Among the most attractive are the chrysanthemum designs in mauve, yellow, light brown and rose on gray or cream and the moss rose motifs on white, and although these materials are rather more expensive than the ordinary cretonnes such draperies cost no more in the long run, as they need not be lined or bordered.

One tone curtains may be made of the yard wide homespun crash, linen finished cotton and Irish linen commonly used for suitings, as they come in every imaginable shade, of which the most popular for window draperies are the soft greens, like chichory, pistache and olive. These materials may be treated similarly to the reversible printed cretonnes edged with a gimp or bordered with an applique cut from a contrasting color or from white linen.

Curtains of bobbinet or a like filmy fabric look best and prove most service-

ably if it is a good three hours' hard work."

EVEN the wildest backyard tom has a certain grace and charm to the cat-lover, but the owner of a beautiful long haired Angora, Russian or Persian cat is indeed to be envied. To watch one of these kittens at play is a pastime for hours on end, while its full bred carriage and manner when full grown are an unending pleasure to look upon.

It is never a good thing to allow a cat to sleep on one's own bed, but there is no reason why it should not have its own daintily cushioned basket in a corner of the room. So clean is the well bred cat, however, that it can just as well be allowed its choice of the most delicate hued pillow on the divan or its own spot on the snowiest white fur rug. When it is to live so intimately with its mistress, however, the cat must always be kept above stairs—kitchen and cellar are quite too plebeian tramping places for this aristocrat, and even when it goes out for its sunning in the back yard it can be taught to wear rubber boots. For most cats, however, this latter precaution is unnecessary, for they will themselves take pains to have their feet clean and dry before returning to mistress's dainty boudoir.

Fashions in cats come and go. At one time it is the long haired Angora, another the short tailed Manx cat, again the Persian or the Russian kitten that is so eagerly sought. There are cats of all kinds to be had for the asking—black cats, white cats, striped cats and spotted cats, but after all it is the soul of the cat that should be judged, and the girl who picks out the kitten at a show or among a newly arrived tiny family should look and judge from the expression more than any other means. There is as great difference between the faces of cats as of human beings and it is easy to find a gentle, loving, really good little kitten just as there are kittens naturally obstinate and sure to be naughty, which will require the greatest care and patience in bringing up to turn them into agreeable, well mannered cats. It's really worth while to study the countenances of the cats one sees, for their little faces are all so cunningly adorable, so gentle and loving, and a cat or kitten was never yet noticed without showing appreciation. From the first a cat should be given a definite name and soon it will answer to that and pay no more attention to the ignominious and painfully ordinary "pussy" or "kitty" than if some one in another room were being thus addressed. Allow and grant a kitten a certain amount of individuality and literally freedom of thought and action and it will repay by showing an extraordinary amount of intelligence and cleverness.

REFURBISHING HATS.

WITH very little trouble a girl who possesses a talent for hat trimming may always wear fresh looking millinery. Whether the outing hat be of Panama or Mexican weave, a natural colored pineapple sailor or a rough straw jungle shape, its surface should be regularly gone over with a weak solution of ammonia and its trimming rearranged or replaced.

On any of these hats handkerchiefs of Paisley patterned silk crepe, figured pongee or dotted foulard are draped about the crown and bowed at the left side. Encircling scarfs of soft silk in one tone of old rose, pastel blue or sea green are finished at each side with velvet ribbon choux, and often striped ribbons are wound twice about the crown, knotted at one side and the fringed ends allowed to hang over the brim.

The colored straw tailored hats, which look so smart when fresh and so shabby after a month of almost daily exposure to sun and sudden showers, may be restored by an application of milliner's dye, applied with a brush. If the original trimmings are at all faded they should be discarded in favor of large bows of wired ribbon, spread horizontally if a broad effect is desired and made into upright loops if height is needed.

Sometimes two narrow ribbons of contrasting tones are sewed together or tulle is combined with velvet or satin. The same rule applies to rosettes made by shirring the inner edges of the double biased material and then slightly elevating the centre with buckram to simulate a cabochon.

Garden party and midsummer wedding hats of chip, Milan, tulle or lingerie are ethereal looking creations and exceedingly perishable. But chip may be partially reshaped with fine wires. Milan may be pressed smooth with a hot radiator or other sort of hat trimmed with butterfly or moth shaped wings of white maline and wreathed with morning glories, bluests or daisies.

RULES FOR READING.

CHILDREN who are fond of outdoor reading may indulge in that delightful pastime without detriment to their eyes if they will take a few simple precautions.

Never allow the sun to shine on the page you are reading, for the glare is injurious, and it is wiser, when possible, to sit with the light on the back of the head of a parasol or a tree.

However great the temptation to finish a fascinating story, do not read in the twilight for this brings too great a strain on the eyes.

When reading on a piazza do not face the light, but turn your chair about so that the light comes over your shoulder.

PRACTICAL TALKS BY THE APRIL GRANDMOTHER

"MANY a girl whose conscience will not permit her to pass a beggar without bestowing alms—thus haughtily from a public weighing machine which implores for only a penny," remarked the April Grandmother as she peered through her lorgnette—at the figures indicated by the weight mechanism. "That pointer proves that you are ten pounds too heavy for your height, and," she added accusingly, "I think that you must have realized that fact, because you were so reluctant to step upon the scales. Yet accurately to know the weight is the only safeguard against obesity, which is one of the sins on your grandfathers' side of the family. It is the easiest thing in the world to acquire a few extra pounds, but a vexation to the spirit to rid one's self of them, and that is why a young girl who is inclined to curves rather than to angles should be weighed at least once each week.

"On the contrary, I do not wish you to half starve yourself," said the April Grandmother in reply to the doleful remark of her plump young descendant. "Semi-starvation is one of the get-thin quick methods which hurry young girls into dyspepsia; nor is there an easier way of robbing the face of its youthful beauty. That penalty is not worth the price of a biplane figure, although I have nothing to say against a straight up and down shape, provided it can be acquired by hygienic means.

"A girl whose figure is generously curved should go in for mountain climbing in some region where to walk at all is hard work. A three-mile ramble over a trail which winds up and down the sides of a canyon and in places so steep that one must cling for support to the shrubbery will take off more flesh than will a ten-mile walk over an ordinarily smooth road. After the first week of this sort of exercise the hips will be several inches smaller, and in ten days' time the waist bands will have to be taken in.

"Heavy shoulders and fat arms are, in my opinion, far more objectionable than are large hips," continued the April Grandmother, "and for that sort of bulk the best reducing exercises are archery and fencing. Both these sports not only

help to make the figure slender and the movements graceful, but they seem to brighten the expression of the face. Practically the same results may be accomplished by playing at hunting with a peashooter and any dog which has the instinct to raise a flock of partridges or chase a squirrel. The sleeker after slowness may teach the prettiest forest creatures to be wary of guns, give the dog no end of harmless sport and herself the benefit of the fresh air as well as greatly improve the digestion and consequently the complexion.

"Once a girl has worked off the desired amount of flesh, she may keep it in abeyance by means of simple exercises, which

may be practised at any convenient moment. There is the aeroplane dance, which seems to call every muscle into play and to be really hard work idealized with music. Then, too, she should always trip very rapidly up stairs and without once pausing for breath, put on her shoes while sitting on a high chair, so that she must bend almost double in order to accomplish the lacing of them, and the April Grandmother smiled mischievously, "pretend that she is an infant and try to bite off her own toes.

"No girl who can perform these feat has an ounce too much flesh, and so long as she continues to practise it need not fear to look a leaping machine in the face."

For the Girl Who Embroiders.

A YOUNG girl who is an expert embroiderer is engaged upon a piece of work which when completed will be a life long treasure. It is a bedspread of heavy linen which is finished with an embroidered border that is most unusual and beautiful. The border is laid out in blocks of regular size, and these blocks are alternately decorated with bands of Irish lace and with embroidered designs. It is the embroidery which is so interesting, as it is entirely designed by the girl herself.

Each block of the embroidery differs from the others, but all represent garden motives, so that they all weave together into a poetic whole. The motives are rather subtle and the designs quaintly complicated, which makes the work much more interesting. One block shows a butterfly in one corner and in the other a design representing conventionalized flowers. Then comes a lace block, and after that a block showing two queer little birds under a strange conventionalized plant. The next embroidered block shows another quaint bird with an extraordinarily long bill, which is being used to explore the recesses of a vine that completely fills up the upper part of the block with its graceful festoons.

Then comes a block half of which is filled with a conventionalized vine on

which is perched still another little bird, this time a small fat one. In the next block there is a plant of the bleeding heart, with a very odd and extremely decorative bird perched on the branches and a most effective small crawling out of the other corner. The next block has a jumble of conventionalized blossoms in one corner and a bird with a very long, narrow tail extending the entire length of the block.

Next comes a group of two fern leaves, a big white daisy and two toadstools, and above these a spider's web. The last embroidered block shows a background of stars and wheel and a peacock poised against it. The spread is of white linen and the embroidery is done in colors appropriate to the motive. Done all in white, such a spread would be very beautiful, but the work would be more difficult and hard on the eyes.

FOR LOW CUT FROCKS.

JEWELRY simple enough for a young girl to wear with her Dutch or square necked frocks is in the shape of a Vailiere chain of platinum or sterling silver. They have pendants emblematic of a renaissance design, a chased pattern or an incrustation of rhinestones or fresh water pearls. Entire strings of amethyst, topaz, amber or carved sandalwood beads are pretty for a school girl. If the throat is rather long and just a bit too slender she may adopt a necklace of black velvet ribbon with silver, gold, rhinestones or "jewelled" slides and